

**United Suffolk Sheep Association  
March Board of Directors Conference Call  
March 13, 2019**

**Board Member Present:** Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Blair Summey, Gayle Lucas, Tom Burke, Matt Beals, Bill Royer, Jeremy Geske, Bret Henderson, Randy Hodges and Brenda Reau.  
**Absent:** Greg Ahart, Bill Gergen & Gary Hoskins.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Jeremy Geske made motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. The motion carried.

**Secretary's Report**

Secretary Everts reported that she continues to work on the 2019 Breeders Directory. Membership dues are coming in for the directory listing. As reported in the February meeting, registrations are still down compared to last year at the same time. The checking account balance is \$11,138.45. Jeremy Geske moved to approve the Secretary's report. The motion was seconded by Bill Royer. All in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Bill Royer stated that investment account balance is \$228,000. He provided and discussed the history of the investment account; directors were provided with a document with this information. He reported on the comparative profit and loss statement provided to the board and shared he had concern about this year's budget. Jeremy Geske moved to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All were in favor, motion carried.

**Junior Report**

Jaclynn Knutson reported that the juniors are working on getting ready for the All American Junior Show. They're going to push sponsorships. There was a brief discussion on recruitment of new directors and interns. Their next board meeting will be Sunday.

**Committee Reports**

**By-Laws** – No report.

**Youth Promotion** – Bret Henderson reported that he and Amanda are working to confirm breeders for the next year's Ewe Lamb Giveaway program. This program will be reviewed after this year to determine if any changes need to be made. The Youth Promotion committee met and discussed ways to increase futurity participation. One idea was to have a webinar discussing the program. The committee proposed the board adopt the addition of a Bred & Owned Ewe Lamb division to the USSA Futurity. Bret Henderson moved to adopt the USSA Futurity Bred & Owned Division. The motion was seconded by Blair Summey. A roll call vote was taken; all were in favor – Blair Summey, Gayle Lucas, Jeremy Geske, Bill Royer, Brenda Reau, Randy Hodges and Bret Henderson. Motion passed. Bret Henderson also made a motion that the Futurity winner will now be recognized at NAILE and the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> place breeders will be recognized at NAILE and the breeder of the 1<sup>st</sup> place owned futurity ewe lamb will receive a free banner ad on the USSA website. Bill Royer seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

**Budget** – Bill Royer reported that both income and expenses were down.

**Ambassador/Queen** – No report.

**Breed Improvement** – Brenda Reau reported that the program and brochure are close to completion for the July educational event.

**Hall of Fame** – Randy Hodges reported that the committee will meet the end of March. Directors should contact Randy before the committee meeting with any names that they would like to be considered.

**Scholarship** – Blair Summey reported on the following changes to the scholarship applications- 1) submission deadline will be June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2) phone interviews will be held at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale, 3) winners will be announced at the All American Junior Show and 4) past winners can reapply.

**Hospitality** – Randy Hodges will take care of providing a light breakfast at the Eastern National Sale in Ohio. Blair Summey will take care of providing donuts at the Western National Sale in Reno. The committee will explore options with Bret Oelke for the Midwest Stud Ram Sale.

**Online Sale** – Jeremy Geske reported on the results he received on the online sale surveys he sent out. The online sales the association will be hosting this year:

1) Elite Futurity Ewe Lamb Sale – anyone can nominate a lamb, the sale committee decides which lambs will sell on the sale. This sale will have up to 10 fitted and 10 slick shorn ewes.

2) Traditional USSA Online Sale- There will be a quality sift on entries. Ram are eligible.

The committee discussed an online range ram sale but further research needs to be done- tabled at this time.

3) Online Semen Sale

4) Fall Bred Ewe Sale

The committee discussed having a commercial/range ram sale and they determined that more research needs to be done on this option.

**GAP** – Bill Royer reported the paperwork for the first group of GAP sheep is being processed in the office.

## **Old Business**

### **Midwest Stud Ram Sale**

Jeremy Geske reported the board's breed rule wording was submitted to the Midwest Stud Ram Sale and Missouri Sheep Breeders. It was reported back that sale management will handle health issues, the board will not sift animals and they association can continue to do measurements. The sale management wants to have a say on what should be disqualified.

### **NAILE Judge**

Amanda shared the top judge names by preference. Topic as tabled to an email discussion and will be revisited at the April meeting.

### **NAILE Open Show Classes**

This will be presented at the April meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Grow & Improve the Suffolk Breed**

Bill Royer made a motion that the board receive a list of new members quarterly and a director in that district reach out them. The motion was seconded by Tom Burke. All were in favor.

There was also discussion on having a webinar for new members – both senior and junior. There was a brief discussion on a social media campaign. This idea will be explored.

### **Facebook Suffolk For Sale Group**

Amanda Everts discussed the idea of the association starting a Suffolk For Sale page on Facebook. There was a brief discussion. Jeremy Geske made a motion to move forward and create this group. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. A roll call vote was taken; all were in favor- Blair Summey, Gayle Lucas, Tom Burke, Bill Royer, Brenda Reau, Randy Hodges and Bret Henderson. Administrators of the group will be Amanda Everts, Gayle Lucas, Brenda Reau and Bill Royer. The administrators will come up with a list of rules for the group.

Blair Summey made motion to adjourn the meeting in memory of Cindy Jones at 8:47pm. Motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Approved June 6, 2019.